

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 25, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioner was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida. The following members were present: Chairman D'Aprile, Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Moore, and Commissioner Loftus. Also in attendance were County Administrator Loucks, County Attorney Knowlton, Executive Assistant Gant, and Minutes Supervisor Nice. The following members were absent: None. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

The invocation was given by Keith Sergert, Murdock Christian Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda:

Addition #1: Growth Management, move Agenda Item Z-4 to Public Hearing Item VI(3) to Consider entering into a Development Agreement by and between Charlotte Commons, LLC and Charlotte County for the Charlotte Commons Development

Addition #2: Administration, Agenda Item Z-5, Board approval of a Consent Order between Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners to reach settlement of certain matters regarding Stump Pass Experimental Shoreline Stabilization project (Permit File Number 0194790-004-JC)

Change #1: General Services, Agenda Item L-5, Approve award of Bid #08-105, Burnt Store Water Treatment Facility Expansion, to Wharton-Smith, Inc. of Sanford, FL in the amount of \$7,341,999. BUDGETED ACTION: Florida Commercial Pool Borrowing on a short-term basis, to be repaid by long-term government bond issuance in 2010. Budgeted Amount for L-5, Burnt Store Water Treatment Facility Expansion is \$9,500,000.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

Special Recognition

Proclamations - Commissioner Duffy

Florida's Water Conservation Month

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE FLORIDA'S WATER CONSERVATION MONTH PROCLAMATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

Utilities Director Jeff Pearson accepted the Proclamation and encouraged everyone to practice water saving measures and conserve water, invited attendees to stop at the Utilities table and pick up information in the lobby, and enumerated various programs in the community.

Charlotte County Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol Day

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE CHARLOTTE COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON CIVIL AIR PATROL DAY PROCLAMATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

Commander SER FL 051 Major Jim Kaletta and Captain Earle Bretz accepted the Proclamation and commented on available services pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding and a new digital imaging system. **Commissioner Cummings** commented on the digital imaging system used for better rescue operations in addition to geographic imaging and environmental monitoring and spectro analysis in a cost effective manner that could generate savings and fund the system. **Chairman D'Aprile** agreed 100% and commented on the benefits derived by the youth of the County.

Autism Awareness Month

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

Sharon Boyd, Advocacy Chair, with three other representatives accepted the Proclamation; expressed appreciation for the Board

and community support; and encouraged everyone to talk with Legislators about the Window of Opportunity Act. Mrs. Boyd explained her son was recently diagnosed by the School Board and commented on the lack of sign language as communication skills in schools. **Commissioner Cummings** stated autism has reached a high percentage rate in the community and commented on the affects of autism in children.

Read Across PCMS Week

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE READ ACROSS PCMS WEEK PROCLAMATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

Doctor Bet Kotowski, Port Charlotte Middle School Vice Principal, accepted the Proclamation, commented on programs in the school scheduled from April 4-11, 2008, and expressed appreciation for the Board's support.

**Employee Recognition - None**

**Award Presentations - None**

I. CITIZEN INPUT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Bruce Pomeroy recalled the lack of resources when he and his wife moved to Charlotte County in 1991, commented on numerous programs established for the good of residents including the \$.01 Sales Tax, suggested taking one-half of the \$.01 revenues to provide funding for numerous organizational programs, and suggested an advisory committee be established to oversee funding allocations and expenditures.

Sue Sifrit appeared on behalf of the Children's Services Council in support of the nine excellent nominations to be sent to the Governor in response to Agenda Item C-5.

Larry Bebee, Health Department, commented on Agenda Item Z-3 by providing a brief history of the Administrative Service Building and the facility on Loveland Boulevard and encouraged the Board to conclude the project with the Mental Health Office.

II. COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Charlotte County is seeking volunteers to serve on the following Committees:

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee - is seeking one member as the Building Industry representative; term ends March 2009.

Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee - is seeking one member to serve a four year term. Must be a resident of Charlotte County and have an interest in the preservation of beaches and shores. Meetings held first Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM in Murdock.

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Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals - is seeking one member to serve as an alternate. Volunteer must be a licensed member of the Construction Industry. Term will expire in April 2009.

Construction Industry Licensing Board - is seeking a volunteer to represent the "specialty contractor" category. Volunteer must be a resident of Charlotte County for at least two years and be a licensed specialty contractor. Length of term is 4 years

Edgewater North Waterway Advisory Committee - is seeking one member to serve for a three year term. Volunteer must be a landowner and reside within the boundaries of the unit.

Gardens of Gulf Cove Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking four "regular members", and one "alternate member", who are landowners and reside within the boundaries of the Unit. The terms for the regular members shall be pulled by lot number during the first scheduled meeting of the committee. The term for the alternate member is for 2 years

*Harbour Heights Street and Drainage Unit Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer to finish the remainder of a two year term as the alternate. This term will be effective immediately and expire February 13, 2009. Must live within the Unit.*

*Harbour Heights Waterway Maintenance District Advisory Board - is seeking one volunteer to serve a term of 3 years. This term is effective immediately and will expire March 13, 2011. Must live within the Unit.*

*Lemon Bay Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer to serve as a "regular member", and one volunteer to serve as the "alternate member". The term for the regular member shall be pulled by lot number during the first scheduled meeting of the committee, and the term of the alternate member shall be for 2 years. All volunteers must reside and be landowners within the boundaries of the Unit.*

*Manasota Key Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to serve as the alternate member. The term shall be for 2 years.*

*Murdock Village, Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer to serve as the Member-at-Large. This committee meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 AM in Room 119.*

*Placida Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to serve as the alternate member. The term shall be for 2 years.*

*South Gulf Cove Advisory Committee (Community Plan) - is seeking one member who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to complete a vacated term expiring on July 24, 2010.*

*South Gulf Cove Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking two volunteers who are landowners and reside within the boundaries of the Unit. One "regular member" to complete a vacated term ending January 9, 2010; and one "alternate member" to complete a vacated term ending February 13, 2009*

Town Estates Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Board - is seeking two volunteers. One term is to finish out the remainder of a vacated appointment; effective immediately and expires January 23, 2010. The second is a 3-year term; effective immediately and expires January 23, 2011.

Chairman D'Aprile expressed appreciation and respect for volunteers who serve on the numerous committees.

III. REPORTS RECEIVED AND FILED - None

- (1) Minutes - Friday, March 14, 2008 - 7:30 AM - Murdock Village - Regular Meeting Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee, 2007
- (2) Murdock Village Community Redevelopment Agency 2007 Annual Report
- (3) Charlotte County Redevelopment Agency 2007 Annual Report

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

A. Finance Division

- (1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Clerk's Finance Memoranda.  
BUDGETED ACTION: None

Memorandum #1 - Status of Contingency Reserves - FY 06/07

Memorandum #1A - Status of Contingency Reserves - FY 07/08

Memorandum #2 - Total Disbursements for the period March 4 through 17, 2008 in the amount of \$11,017,451.63

B. Minutes Division

- (1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Minutes for:

December 11, 2007      9:00 AM      BCC Regular Board Meeting

December 13, 2007      9:00 AM      Public Hearing - Babcock Ranch  
Master Development Order

December 14, 2007      9:00 AM      Joint Meeting - City of Punta  
Gorda

December 18, 2007      9:00 AM      Land Use Public Hearings

BUDGETED ACTION: None

**Board of County Commissioners**

**C. Commission Office**

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint Fred Mesler, representing the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club to the Marine Advisory Committee to fill the vacancy that resulted from the resignation of Jim Redding. Expiration date, December 31, 2009. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(2) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint Mike Douglass to the Construction Industry Licensing Board representing the "licensed plumbing contractor" category. Length of term is four years. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(3) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider the reappointment of Nigel Morris to the Charlotte Ranchettes Street and Drainage Unit Advisory Board. Length of term is three years. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(4) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider the reappointment of Ed Minzer & George McNeill to the Alligator Creek Waterway MSBU Advisory Committee. Length of term is three years. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve nine applicants for consideration by the Governor of the State of Florida for the Children's Services Council; three applicants submitted for each vacancy. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(6) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve the reappointment of Paul Jones as the District #4 representative on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a three year term. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

D. Administration - No Items.

E. County Attorney - No Items.

F. Budget Office

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve the updated schedule of Strategic Financial Review sessions with the Board of County Commissioners: 4/7/08 thru 6/5/08. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

G. Growth Management - No Items.

H. Economic Development - No Items.

J. Environmental Services - No Items.

K. Facilities Construction and Maintenance - No Items.

L. General Services

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Change Order #4 to Contract #08-043, Cleaning Services - Charlotte County Facilities, with JMC Services, Inc., at the total annual increase to the Contract of \$16,206. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budgeted in the cost center for the Courthouse.

(2) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: a) Approve File #08-188, Ultra Low Flow Toilet Rebate Program, to "piggyback" off of the Manatee County Government, Request for Proposal #06-1740JR, with ViewTech Financial Services, Inc., Tampa, FL for a period of three (3) years commencing from date of approval; b) Authorize the County Administrator to approve renewal options for up to two additional one-year terms, at the same prices, terms and conditions, by mutual consent; and c) Authorize Chairman to execute Agreement. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budgeted Amount is \$100,100.

(3) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve renewal of Contract #05-302, In-Home Elder Care, with multiple firms for the term July 1, 2008 up to and including June 30, 2009. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

(4) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Change Order #6, Contract 07-090, South County Grounds Maintenance - Annual to Amera-Tech, Inc. of Fort Myers, FL, for the total cost of \$2,910 to add Grounds Maintenance services for the Old Court House. BUDGETED ACTION: Budget amount in FY08 is \$10,805.00.

(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION: a) Approve Novation for Contract #07-461, Collection of Hazardous Wastes, with EQ Florida, Inc., to adjust payments to be in the name of EQ - The Environmental Quality Company and b) Authorize the Chairman to sign the Novation. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(6) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve termination of Contract #07-280, Clean Washed Shell - Annual Contract awarded to Eagle Dump Trucks of Punta Gorda, FL. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(7) RECOMMENDED ACTION: a) Approve Amendment #5 to Contract #06-190, Project Management - Dredge Projects, with Coastal Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$21,530 and b) Authorize Chairman to sign the Amendment to the Contract. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(8) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve award of Bid #08-105, Burnt Store Water Treatment Facility Expansion, to Wharton-Smith, Inc., of Sanford, FL in the amount of \$7,341,999. BUDGETED ACTION: Florida Commercial Pool Borrowing on a short-term basis, to be repaid by long-term government bond issuance in 2010.

M. Human Resources - No Items.

N. Human Services - No Items.

P. Information Technology - No Items.

Q. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources - No Items.

R. Public Safety

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Request BCC Chairman sign the attached Mutual Agreement Certification to close out the funding of planning phase of the Rebanding project. BUDGETED ACTION: None

**Agreement 2006-072**

S. Public Works - No Items.

T. Real Estate Services

(1) **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the attached Resolution, authorizing the execution of a Lease Agreement to secure 1.5 acres +/- of vacant land at 12421 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda, to be used by the Environmental & Extension Services Department as a landing site for the Mosquito Control helicopter. **BUDGETED ACTION:** This expenditure is budgeted in the Mosquito Control's State Budget under the Rentals/lease land account for \$6,000. **Funding from Mosquito Control State Budget Account:** Funding for this expense is through State funding received annually.

**Resolution 2008-030 with Land Lease Agreement with Burnt Store Land Group, LLC**

V. Tourism Development - No Items.

W. Utilities

(1) **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Set a Workshop for April 8, 2008 at 2:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to discuss the Countywide Reverse Osmosis Project Options and Future Wastewater Expansion areas. **BUDGETED ACTION:** None

X. Building & Construction Services - No Items.

Y. Other Agencies - No Items.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

Z. Regular Agenda

(1) Clerk of the Court - **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Presentation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, highlighting the results of the County's audited 06/07 financials.

Clerk of the Circuit Court Barbara T. Scott introduced Finance Director Ann Navan who reported the Clerk has been awarded the

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the last 21 years on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) including Fiscal Year 2005/2006 and expressed confidence that staff can continue with its excellent performance. Ms. Navan explained the requirements and standards of the CAFR required by the Auditor General by March 31 of every Fiscal Year that is independently audited to assess the fiscal health of the County and compliance with State agency criteria, bond covenants, and grant reporting requirements; it consolidates all financial data for County departments and Constitutional Officers; thanked County staff who work in conjunction with the Finance Department in the development of the CAFR; outlined the process including external auditor reviews; gave a slide presentation that highlighted segments of the CAFR setting out a concise summary (pages 3-16), Basic Financial Statements (pages 23-24) show the that General Fund balance is \$57,762,784 that is the highest it has ever been for operating expenditures or about 30% of the prior Fiscal Year's expenditures; reviewed Fund Balances for Public Safety at \$23,376,677 or about 50% of last Fiscal Year's expenses, Capital Projects at \$34,992,536, and Road Improvement at \$44,297,298 which is not a large balance considering road construction costs. **Commissioner Duffy** questioned the \$157 million total for "Other Governmental Funds" on page 24. Ms. Navan explained a lot of Special Revenue Funds; the levy, collections, and accumulated balances of MSBU/TUs; some Sales Tax Extension and interest revenues, and impact fees; reported the nature of most of the monies are restricted to usage; and offered individual reviews with each Board Member. **Commissioner Duffy** opined carryover balances from last year are very high.

Ms. Navan referenced Cash and Investments shown on page 60 for a total of \$435,308,942. **Chairman D'Aprile** questioned the liquidity of investments. Mr. White explained about 48% are invested in one, two, three, four, and five year terms, they are liquid as far as selling potential and the key is to allow them to mature, there is 22% or \$107,000,000 in overnight cash that is immediately liquid, \$10,000,000 in the Florida Local Government Investment Trust, \$129,000,000 in the State Board Administration Fund of which \$40,000,000 is immediately liquid and within 12 months all of it except \$12,000,000 should be liquid and concluded the investments are very liquid. Ms. Navan continued the presentation with Long-Term Debt Obligations (pages

68-75), the Utilities and Solid Waste Division Bond and Notes Outstanding are over \$156,000,000 (page 69) and the total for non-utility debt including Murdock Village, various special assessment loans made through the Pooled Commercial Paper Loan Program is \$158,907,000 (page 74). **Commissioner Duffy** questioned the reasonableness of the Long-Term Debt. Mr. White stated in comparison with other governmental jurisdictions, it is not a large amount when considering the acquisition of a utility system and if the Murdock Village debt is backed out, the County would basically have a zero general government debt. Ms. Navan reviewed the Independent Auditor Reports (pages 213-221) and the Statistical Section (pages 188-212) that provides a review of key data including history and changes in fund balances, property values and millage rates, outstanding debt, headcount, and operating indicators, and reiterated an offer to review the CAFR with Board Members on an individual basis. **Chairman D'Aprile** requested confirmation on the audit being satisfactory. Ms. Navan stated very much. **Chairman D'Aprile** indicated surprise that the County debt is a lot less than other counties. Ms. Navan agreed with Mr. White's conclusion and stated until Murdock Village, Charlotte County was a pay-as-you-go except for the utility. **Chairman D'Aprile** and **Commissioner Loftus** expressed appreciation and commended the Clerk's Office regarding the CAFR. **Commissioner Loftus** suggested getting the information on the pie chart on page 8 out to the public and stated this is the type of information Board Members need to make informed decisions.

(2) Commission Office - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation and Board discussion regarding the Regional Inter-connect Pipeline Project.

County Administrator Loucks introduced Assistant County Administrator Roger Baltz who is present with Water Authority representatives. Mr. Baltz pointed out this item was placed on the agenda at the request of **Commissioner Loftus** to bring back more information on issues regarding the pipeline project approved in July 2007, introduced Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Authority Executive Director Pat Lehman and Utilities Director Jeff Pearson. Mr. Baltz pointed out the Charlotte/City of Punta Gorda/Peace River Water Authority pipeline from Punta Gorda, along US 17, underneath the Peace River through Charlotte County, with a connection at Kings Highway near Sandhill

Boulevard as shown on the map; recalled discussion about construction methods for going under the Peace River that led to questions about the marine trench or open-cut construction method and possible turnover to the Water Authority for completion of the segment from Wal-Mart to the DeSoto County line that has gone out to bid and remaining right-of-way acquisitions to be done. Mr. Baltz stated the back-up information provided includes a copy of the agreement between all parties, the project location map as Exhibit A, a memorandum from Utilities summarizing the status of the Kings Highway project, and a letter dated October 2007 to the Water Authority that indicated Charlotte County would retain ownership of the Kings Highway section of the pipeline but may be open to discussion of other options. Mr. Baltz recommended discussing the issues individually starting with the construction method of marine trenching. **Chairman D'Aprile** concurred. Mr. Lehman introduced DMK Associates Engineering Consultant Dorian Popescu and President and Chief Executive Officer Earth Balance Donald H. Ross. Mr. Lehman gave a slide presentation on the 20-year vision of the regional integrated system and the Peace River Crossing alternative methods developed by DMK Associates. Mr. Ross explained the decision was made that the marine crossing would be the best alternative and enumerated Factors Favoring Marine Trench over a Subaqueous Crossing and illustrated them with clip art as a Representation of the Pipe Depth Issue, commented on the Weight of the Drill Mud that Creates Upward Pressure under the Peace River that may result in leaks and additional risks, and a directional drill has a \$3 million premium. Mr. Ross summarized the Subaqueous Crossing coordination issues including cost and there are only three limited contractors outside of the State of Florida. Mr. Ross commented on minimizing the risk of Marine Trenching based on environmental protection issues.

Mr. Ross continued the slide presentation on minimizing environmental risks of the Marine Trench. **Commissioner Duffy** questioned if consideration was given for installing a pipeline over I-75. Mr. Popescu explained, yes, and continued the slide presentation of the Marine Trench with depth and cross sections of the installation and the placement of the trividity curtain, tidal impacts, and reviewed the Advantages of the Marine Trench that would be between 4 to 10 feet deep, avoidance of essential fish habitat as well as mangroves, seagrass and oyster beds, and

reported staging areas can be sited to avoid environmental impacts.

Mr. Lehman concluded the presentation and offered to answer questions. **Chairman D'Aprile** opined a primary consideration should be environmental issues and reclamation on the River bottom. Mr. Ross stated areas to be dug up will recover themselves through recolonization and there is nothing to be done to enhance the recovery of the River. **Chairman D'Aprile** indicated understanding that the spoils would be spread out and he does not want to make the River more shallow. **Commissioner Cummings** expressed skepticism due to the complexity of permitting issues. Mr. Popescu explained two separate permits would be necessary for the open cut and directional bore. Mr. Ross recalled an issue with the DeSoto line involving an aerial crossing versus drilling under the River but the pileups could be more than crossing under the River. **Commissioner Cummings** expressed concern about the risk of leaks in the line, referenced the blow out that occurred on Kings Highway, and commented on the use of a sleeve. Mr. Popescu stated this is a 24" line and the sleeve would be 50' below the ground level in a rock layer and it would be difficult to fix at that depth versus repairs at a 4' depth that can be done much quicker. **Commissioner Cummings** suggested this presentation be given to the NEP. Mr. Lehman indicated staff has been talking about scheduling the presentation.

**RECESS: 10:28 AM - 10:35 AM**

**Commissioner Cummings** requested a list of the permits required and details necessary for the two alternatives in addition to the earlier requested information. Mr. Baltz requested clarification from the Board on acceptance of the information on the Marine Trench or provide additional remarks as evidenced by comments made by **Commissioner Moore** during the recess. **Commissioner Moore** noted **Commissioner Cummings'** concerns should be addressed but stated it is appropriate to give direction, expressed a willingness to accept the information that directional boring is too expensive and indicated support for the Marine Trench. **Commissioner Loftus** commented on expediting the project to keep costs down and expressed support for the Open Cut/Marine Trench to save \$3 million so long as there is no degradation to the Peace River. **Chairman D'Aprile** commented in support of the

Marine Trench versus the directional boring and pointed out **Commissioner Cummings** is entitled to have his concerns addressed. **Commissioner Duffy** expressed confidence with staff and expert recommendations, indicated support for the Marine Trench method, and stated answers to **Commissioner Cummings'** questions should not delay the process. **Chairman D'Aprile** stated **Commissioner Cummings'** concerns are very important. **Commissioner Cummings** reiterated the assurances given the last time that it would be less costly but the project ended up costing 15% more and the project was delayed by six months, and stated this is a big ticket item as far as cost and the ecological impacts on the Estuary.

Mr. Baltz referenced the map to show the interconnect on the pipeline, estimated the project budget at \$19 million extending from Shell Creek to Sandhill Boulevard; pointed out one of the termination points for the pipeline is at Sandhill Boulevard; Utilities is currently working on an extension of the water line from the Wal-Mart to the DeSoto County line; and asked Mr. Lehman to provide information on taking over the extension project and making it a part of the Authority's assets. **Commissioner Loftus** reported he learned at a recent Authority meeting that the County could save \$300,000 if the Authority took over the project since Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) would pay 58% and the County would pay 42% of the \$500,000 cost. Mr. Lehman pointed out on the map the location of the interconnect at the end of the Authority's 24" pipeline; explained the most financially feasible and expedient process would be to reimburse the County for the total cost of the design and construction of the pipeline under the bid by making it fundable by SWFWMD; and requested the Board's approval to proceed by allowing staffs from the County, the Authority, and SWFWMD to develop and bring back a full recommendation to make it work jointly to the benefit of County and regional residents. **Commissioner Moore** recalled the County went out to bid on the extension segment, the intent now is for the Authority to take that under its total contract responsibility. Mr. Lehman stated the proposal is for the County to build it and be reimbursed for all engineering and construction expenses and then it would be placed under the umbrella contract with SWFWMD for the \$19 million. **Commissioner Moore** commented in support of County staff addressing existing right-of-way issues. Mr. Lehman indicated the Authority does not wish to interfere.

**Commissioner Moore** concluded the County would get 42% of the hydraulic capacity. Mr. Lehmann agreed, added the Authority would have 58% hydraulic capacity, the question would be who would use the 58% hydraulic capacity owned by the Authority, and pointed out the County is a member of the Authority. **Commissioner Moore** stated he does not see any risk to the County. **Chairman D'Aprile** requested the status concerning acquisitions of the right-of-way parcels. Mr. Baltz reported some property must be acquired as part of the project, advised Real Estate Services Department has been working on it, recalled three or four parcels directly related to the project, staff will continue working on these acquisitions, and recommended County staff continue as they are aware of the issues. **Chairman D'Aprile** related motions are necessary on both segments of the pipeline. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned the Authority's need for this segment. Mr. Lehmann pointed out as part of the 20-year version to allow water north from Punta Gorda and further north through a total regional interconnected system. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned how water will flow northward with 20% of water from DeSoto County and 80% of water from Charlotte County will be flowing southward. Mr. Lehman stated is part of the future vision of the regional interconnected system with a potential of water flowing in both directions. **Commissioner Cummings** pointed out the important part is the crossing under the Peace River that is the mostly likely way of getting water to the rest of the region since the pipe would already be full with water flowing from north to south, they would need to increase the supply from Punta Gorda and provide more through the short crossing that ties in at East Port at Harbourview Boulevard and then less would be pumped from DeSoto County down Kings Highway e.g. flows would be reduced at both ends, pointed out SWFWMD's 60% is adding costs to the project since the Kings Highway segment is not necessary to get the water where it is needed. **Commissioner Cummings** stated the County would have owned 100% capacity whereas under the proposed interconnect, the County will only have 42% capacity. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned if SWFWMD has made a firm commitment to fund the 60% or does their contribution have a cap in the contract. **Commissioner Cummings** stated he wants it in writing. Mr. Lehman reported staff discussions have taken place, it appears to be fundable, stay within the \$19 million with SWFWMD to pay about \$11 million and Charlotte County to pay \$8 million, the

Boards have already approved these allocations, and agreements need to be developed and brought back to the Boards for their ultimate decisions.

**Commissioner Cummings** calculated the County would pay a minimum of 70%, due to the County paying 40% on the local match, or has the shift to 50% been made. Mr. Lehmann rationalized if the County were to proceed with the project, it would pay 100% and if it goes through the Authority, the County would pay 42% under the current agreement. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned if this cost is provided for within the agreement. Mr. Lehman confirmed the Mr. Popescu's cost estimates indicated the costs would be within the contract. **Commissioner Cummings** stated he will be more confident once staff comes to him and indicates the County will get its full reimbursement. **Commissioner Cummings** reiterated the County would have 100% capacity and cost paid with local monies, the SWFWMD grant raised the project costs and will take the County's share of the allocation, and pointed out the County would have had all of the capacity for the same local money. **Commissioner Moore** stated that is not fair or reasonable and interpreted **Commissioner Cummings'** statement that he did not want to construct the connecting pipeline to get the water up to the Authority when the County has been working to achieve that goal. **Commissioner Cummings** indicated that is not what was said and he explained how it could be done. **Commissioner Moore** pointed out reverse flows within the same pipeline, even with different materials, have been done. **Chairman D'Aprile** opined the Water Authority needs to work with County staff to develop a solution and address concerns and requested a motion.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO ALLOW THE WATER AUTHORITY TO DILIGENTLY WORK WITH STAFF ON THE PIPELINE SEGMENT OF 24" LINE FROM WAL-MART TO THE DESOTO COUNTY LINE AND TO OBTAIN THE FUNDING FROM SWFWMD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.**  
**Motion Carried 4:1. Commissioner Cummings opposing.**

**VI. PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA - 10:00 AM**

(1) Public Works - **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Consider approving an Ordinance amending the purpose of the Harbour Heights Street and Drainage MSBU to include beautification projects.

Dawn Harrison explained the purpose of the public hearing is to add beautification projects to the ordinance and the Advisory Committee approved inclusion of the beautification. Joan Hayes, a member of the MSBU Committee, requested delaying this item until pricing can be obtained for doing the project through the MSBU versus a private concern.

Bill Moyer stated he attended the Advisory Committee during which the project was voted in and now everyone wants it reversed and suggested Public Works take over the beautification along with the other street and drainage maintenance. Maggie Scott, an MSBU Committee member, concurred with Mr. Moyer that the Committee did vote in favor of adding beautification but agreed with Mrs. Hayes about getting costs. Harbour Heights Horticultural Society President Fran Reimondo stated the Society has met with County staff and a private landscaper and uncertainties exist on the type of plants that be installed and pricing from the County and the private landscaper.

**COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.  
Motion Carried 5:0.**

**Commissioner Moore** requested clarification on the purpose of the public hearing e.g. to change the scope of what the MSBU can do and not to award a contract. Ms. Harrison concurred. **Commissioner Moore** questioned the ability of the MSBU Committee to go through a private landscaper. Ms. Harrison explained the ordinance must be amended prior to the County providing any pricing and the Committee has the discretion to decide what is to be done and how much is to be spent. Ms. Harrison commented on her intent to secure Native Tree funding and reiterated it will be up to the Committee on what is placed into the medians. **Commissioner Duffy** pointed out the requested motion on the golden rod indicates that the Board is to consider approving an ordinance amending the purpose of the Harbour Heights Street and Drainage MSBU to include beautification projects and noted citizens concerns about uncertainties of pricing. Ms. Harrison indicated staff would meet with the Committee and decide what they want installed and suggested making it a safety issue for removal of vegetation to eliminate monetary expenses but amendment of the ordinance would allow future beautification projects if the Committee chooses to do so. Ms. Harrison

reported some maintenance is necessary now because it is overgrown and more dangerous than in the past. Commissioner Duffy concluded this is a safety issue. Commissioner Cummings stated the sole purpose of this ordinance would amend the purpose of the unit to add beautification projects from funds derived from special assessments within the unit only and it gives the unit the option to have beautification projects done and does not require that beautification projects be done or that they be done in the current manner by the Homeowners Association, it will allow the Committee to work with staff on such projects and obtain costs. Ms. Harrison agreed that they would still have option to go through the Association. Commissioner Cummings stated a private landscaper may be able to do the work cheaper but an issue might come up on requiring everyone within the MSBU to pay and indicated the requested action is not in conflict with residents' concerns.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-034 AMENDING THE PURPOSE OF THE HARBOUR HEIGHTS STREET AND DRAINAGE MSBU TO INCLUDE BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS.**

**Motion Carried 5:0.**

Chairman D'Aprile stated he would not oppose the motion but noted residents' concern about the lack of pricing. Ms. Harrison explained this would permit them to use funding out of the MSBU if they decide to have the work done. Public Works Director Tom O'Kane reported they will decide about the landscaping and overall maintenance of the medians but if trimming is required for safety purposes, that cost will come out of the MSBU.

(2) Public Works - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider approving an Ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Hillsborough Boulevard between Chamberlain Blvd. and Toledo Blade Blvd. from 45 mph to 40 mph as requested by both the City of North Port and Charlotte County citizens living along that section of roadway.

Mr. O'Kane summarized the purpose of the public hearing and reported he has viewed the stripping which is working well with the no passing lanes.

**COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.**

Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-035 TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON HILLSBOROUGH BOULEVARD BETWEEN CHAMBERLAIN BLVD. AND TOLEDO BLADE BLVD. FROM 45 MPH TO 40 MPH AS REQUESTED BY BOTH THE CITY OF NORTH PORT AND CHARLOTTE COUNTY CITIZENS LIVING ALONG THAT SECTION OF ROADWAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

3) Consider entering into a Development Agreement by and between Charlotte Commons, LLC and Charlotte County for the Charlotte Commons development

Growth Management Director Jeff Ruggieri explained the developer will be doing 11 improvements pursuant to the agreement and the base improvement will be a right-hand turn from Peachland Boulevard; the \$4.2 million is an estimated cost of the 11 improvements; and staff recommends approval. Attorney Geri Waksler, on behalf of Charlotte Commons, LLC, stated the agreement has been changed but there will be no additional impact fees to be utilized other than on this project; 8 of the 11 improvements will be done in the first phase, one has already been done and two remain for the final phase; the first phase improvements will be commenced within 24 months; any urban street scaping would be an addition; the developer has agreed to removal of sidewalks; and offered to answer questions.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Chairman D'Aprile expressed understanding that approval would allow the parties to enter into the development agreement and requested the time lines under which the County would have done the improvements. Mr. O'Kane advised they are not in the five-year CIP.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE AGREEMENT 2008-016, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

Z. Regular Agenda

(4) Board approval of a Consent Order between Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners to reach settlement of certain matters regarding Stump Pass Experimental Shoreline Stabilization project (Permit File Number 0194790-004-JC)

Assistant County Administrator Kelly Shoemaker advised the Consent Order between FDEP and Charlotte County would supersede the Final Order that was issued on February 20, 2008 and explained removal of the geo tubes and restoration timeline.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE AGREEMENT 2008-017 (CONSENT ORDER BETWEEN FDEP AND CHARLOTTE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.  
Motion Carried 5:0.

VII. PRESENTATION AGENDA - No Items.

VIII. PUBLIC WORKSHOP AGENDA - No Items.

IX. BOARD WORKSHOP AGENDA - No Items.

X. CITIZEN INPUT - ANY SUBJECT - None

AA. County Administrator

Mr. Loucks reported by law the County is precluded from using Local Option Sales Tax revenues on anything other than infrastructure and capital projects instead of non-profit organizations and community action groups as suggested by Mr. Pomeroy. Mr. Loucks explained affordable housing project applications were received late last week from developers and information is still being collected, the sites are located in the Kings Highway/Loveland area, requested authorization for him and staff to defer impact and connection fees for two years for Atlantic Housing Partners and three years for North Star Development to assist the developers in meeting the minimum housing requirements and file the applications that are due April 7, 2008 under the State's universal cycle, and stated usually SHIP funds may be used by they are fully committed for this

fiscal year. **Commissioner Loftus** questioned the commitment of SHIP funds for next year. Mr. Loucks related representatives from both developers and staff are present to answer questions. Lorraine Helber stated the minimum requirement for the local contribution under the State application would be \$75,000, agreed SHIP funds could be used but they have been committed, suggested the developers explain the formula used with fee deferrals, and pointed out the deferral amount (impact and connection fees) must add up to \$75,000. Paula Roads, North Star Development, explained the way that the State values the \$75,000 contribution, if it is a deferral, is by taking the amount deferred and imputing interest rate of 6.51% to it during the deferral period to discount the present value, and it is the value of the deferral not the amount deferred that has to be at least \$75,000 e.g. connection and impact fees on the project would total about \$379,000 and it would be necessary to go out a fair amount of time to calculate to the \$75,000, based on the Florida Housing Finance Corporation net present value calculation the project is still short of the \$75,000 if three years was used so four years would have to be used, the formula does not allow for partial year increments, and the value of the deferral is what counts. **Commissioner Loftus** requested delay until the next meeting due to insufficient information. Ms. Helber stated a delay would preclude the developers from filing their applications on the April 7, 2008 deadline. **Commissioner Loftus** stated the way this has been handled is wrong. Mr. Loucks explained the reason for the lateness in getting the information to the Board and stated, if the Board desires, it will be brought back as a regular agenda item. **Commissioner Loftus** reiterated this should never have been brought to the Board without full information. Atlantic Housing Partners Executive Vice Present W. Scott Culp explained the opportunities that would be missed if the applications for the projects are not filed timely, pointed out both of these affordable housing communities would be administered and reviewed by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, as the applications go through the development permitting approval process, the Board will have additional opportunities to have their concerns addressed; at this time, direction is being requested for a deferral not a waiver; and reiterated this would not be the final opportunity for the Board to address concerns because it would be brought back in the form of an agreement with the deferral being secured by a letter of credit or some other manner. **Commissioner Moore**

stated the Housing Corporation has done a wonderful job, affordable housing is needed, and indicated opposition due to the way the item has been submitted to the Board. **Commissioner Duffy** acknowledged the reason for the delay in getting information to the Board but expressed opposition. Mr. Loucks stated, as of yesterday, staff was receiving information to get a full packet for Board Members and it was his responsibility to bring it to the Board's attention which has been done. **Commissioner Loftus** stated this is not the right procedure and he is not in favor of moving forward with the requests. **Chairman D'Aprile** noted three Board Members opposing and questioned the lateness. Ms. Helber commented on the difficulties of coordinating all aspects that are generally pulled together at the last minute, pointed out SHIP funds have been committed for this year, SHIP funds for 2009 cannot be committed until after July 1, 2008 which is after the April 7, 2008 deadline, and questioned if the State would allow switching the financing mechanism in mid-stream. Mr. Culp stated under the Florida Housing Finance Corporation guidelines, the commitment has to be in place prior to the application deadline or it would cause the application to fail; if the Board decided to change the commitment to another form at a later date, there is no penalty to the applicant at that point; recalled discussions started on February 25, 2008 to achieve the least impact on the County's budget including negotiations with sellers, site control for extended periods of time to go through the State's scoring application process; some counties have approval of these types of applications by ordinance in advance; and consideration was given to the least monetary impact on the County. Ms. Helber concluded the Board could change the commitment to SHIP funds after July 1, 2008 and there would not be any penalty to the applicant. Mr. Culp responded affirmatively. **Commissioner Cummings** stated he is not willing to make the decision today. Ms. Roads explained the timing process that is very difficult to understand; advised North Star will have to wait another year if the deferral is not approved today because the Florida Housing Corporation application process is an annual process; North Star is partnering with the Punta Gorda Housing Authority to replace housing destroyed by Hurricane Charley; the seniors that were displaced have not been provided with replacement housing which this project will accomplish; it has taken an entire year to find a site for the project that would qualify; it is crucial for North Star to be able to participate in this process; and

reiterated it will be another year before the seniors can move back in. **Chairman D'Aprile** announced four Board Members have opposed this item.

BB. County Attorney - No Items.

CC. Commissioner Comments

**Commissioner Duffy** expressed concern about the high amount of carryovers and recalled discussion on giving no bonuses. **Commissioner Loftus** recalled no bonuses were to be given. **Commissioner Duffy** commented on adjustments for numerous types of awards in addition to pay-for-performance increases, temporary duty pay, lump payments even though she understood that there were to be no more bonuses. **Commissioner Loftus** stated there was a .75 of an hour discussion to explain curtails to CIP increases and pay-for-performance. Mr. Loucks added discussion occurred on applicability and rules of the two unions, the necessity for approval by the Board, and suggested scheduling discussion on April 8, 2008 on bonuses and pointed out the IUPAT contract expires September 30, 2008. Mr. Loucks referenced the table on pages 193 and 194 of the CAFR regarding the carryover fund balance for the General Fund that reflects an increase from 2004 through 2007 with \$12.2 million as an IOU for Murdock Village and the Unreserved Fund balance reduction from 2006 based on decreases in expenditures and stated even though the jail will create a great impact on the Fund balance, it will be softened. **Commissioner Duffy** stated residents believe the County is setting on monies paid by them when those dollars could be used to lower taxes. Mr. Loucks explained the way to reduce fund balances would be to do a one-time reduction or an increase to the revenue stream. **Commissioner Duffy** pointed out the revenue stream increased by 103%, expressed frustration and concerns, and reiterated the need to address no bonuses. Mr. Loucks stated if that is the Board's direction, it will change as of September 30, 2008. **Commissioner Loftus** stated he could not read the CAFR at night because he is very concerned about the County's expenditures and agreed direction was given that only what was under contract was to be done.

**Commissioner Moore** commented on the necessity to comply with Union contract requirements. **Commissioner Cummings** stated he does not have clear recollection of a workshop discussion on no

bonuses, expressed concern about the impact of treating non-union employees different than union employees because that may drive non-union personnel to become union employees, and motivational efforts are far more important in this type of morale situation.

**Chairman D'Aprile** acknowledged the need for Board Members to address concerns in this forum due to Sunshine requirements; expressed concern about the situations regarding Murdock Village and the Publix warehouse withdrawal; commented in support for pursuing negotiations with Publix; opined the blame stops at the Board; and commented on working to make it better for the County and get results today not tomorrow or five years from now to rectify the budget situation. **Commissioner Duffy** stated she contacted Publix and was advised that Publix withdrew construction of a warehouse in this area because their operations had to become more efficient and cost effective e.g. transportation of goods.

**Chairman D'Aprile** outlined delays in the acquisition and construction process early on when Publix was to purchase property from the Airport Authority and the cost of acquisition escalated but the Board stepped in and finally Publix was allowed to purchase the property at a reasonable price and then access/road improvements stood in the way of Publix moving forward; he wanted Publix to increase the tax base and put people back to work; and opined something must be done to correct the situation.

**RECESS: 12:20 PM - 1:30 PM**

**V. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Z. Regular Agenda**

(3) Administration - **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Discussion and direction on the current Capital Improvement Program.

**Commissioner Duffy** questioned the possibility of the Board making decisions today on the CIP on a project-by-project basis without having the data from the Property Appraiser's valuations, project costs, and Dr. Marlowe's findings. **Chairman D'Aprile** stated decisions will need to be made on financials. **Commissioner Loftus** expressed concern about making decisions without knowing the cut on ad valorem revenues, asked for the

Maintenance and Operations (M&O) costs on an annual basis and the cost of projects, and stated he does not have sufficient information to make decisions today. Mr. Loucks inquired if each project has requirements for M&O costs. Budget Director Raymond Sandrock responded affirmatively. Mr. Loucks stated this agenda item was brought back as a result of Board concerns; advised the Board needs to consider each project and determine whether to move forward or not; and operations data is available in the CIP. **Commissioner Loftus** stated capital costs, M&O, and funding information should be a part of the packet. **Chairman D'Aprile** pointed out discussion will assist staff. Mr. Sandrock stated he has met personally with staff to identify project and M&O costs and he will present that data as part of the presentation. **Commissioner Duffy** reiterated concerns about making decisions without receiving all pertinent information and pointed out CIP budgets might be cut based on ad valorem revenues. Mr. Sandrock stated many CIP projects are funded by ad valorem but the focus today should be on short-term projects e.g. within 60 days. **Commissioner Moore** stated the packet data was very informative, interpreted staff needs direction prior to investing a lot of time in a project, and commented on uncertainties relative to the lack of information on valuations that are not due until July 1, 2008 from the Property Appraiser. **Chairman D'Aprile** concluded no great decisions will be made today. Mr. Loucks informed the Board that the slide presentation is based on the packet information e.g. Parks and Recreation for the West County Regional Library, Tringali Park Building 3 Reuse Plan, South County Regional Library and Historical Archive Center, Harold Avenue Recreation Center Improvements, and Hickory House Park. **Commissioner Loftus** questioned the total cost of the Hickory House project and expressed concern about the West County Library project. Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Director Laura Kleiss-Hoeft advised the West County Library project has been tabled as a potential 2008 Sales Tax project and the total cost was \$12 million. **Commissioner Loftus** reiterated the lack of sufficient information. **Chairman D'Aprile** recalled approval of the plans. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated only a portion of the plans were completed. The slide presentation continued with Tippecanoe Environmental Park and El Jobean Boat Ramp. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned if the amenities were a requirement for mitigation. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated this is applicable to Tippecanoe I as part of the Florida Communities Trust requirements. **Commissioner Duffy** requested the location of

Hickory House. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated it is on the Dotzler property and it was a Florida Communities Trust project with access from Bayshore and off of Edgewater. **Commissioner Duffy** asked for funding sources for Hickory House project. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft recalled a loan was secured to acquire the property, interest payments are being made, and the \$4 million is for park development and historical restoration. **Commissioner Duffy** questioned the reduction if only the historical restoration is done. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated the restoration would be less and staff would propose moving forward with the restoration at a cost of about \$548,000 and delaying park development until 2013.

Mr. Loucks stated each county may determine specific levels of service for parks pursuant to State mandates. **Commissioner Duffy** suggested moving Hickory House to Bayshore Park and selling the Park property. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft reported historical requirements would preclude moving the house closer to water bodies. Mr. Loucks suggested considering consolidation of facilities and departments and referenced Fire and EMS. **Commissioner Loftus** requested staff provide needs versus wants on each project. **Commissioner Duffy** indicated staff provides the information to the Board to make decisions. **Commissioner Loftus** stated the County Administrator should give staff direction to provide the information. The automated slide presentation continued with the El Jobean Boat Ramp, Carmalita Park Building Replacement - Recovery for the Softball Concession Building, Carmalita Roller Hockey Rink, Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park, Hathaway Park, Horse Arena to renovate historic stockade and provide a score tower, and South County Regional Park. **Commissioner Duffy** requested an explanation concerning the radio controlled track in the South County Regional Park. Mr. Loucks stated a group requested it and it was moved to that site. **Commissioner Moore** opined that represents someone's passion and interest. The presentation continued with slides concerning the following projects: Ainger Creek Boat Ramp and Cattle Dock Boat Ramp Site which is a joint project with SWFWMD and the Department of Environmental Protection. **Commissioner Moore** questioned restraints because SWFWMD owns the land. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated the agreement with SWFWMD would be brought to the Board soon and explained diversified funding sources to be accumulated for use in the future. The slide presentation continued with the Myakka River Park and Placida Fishing Pier/Placida Park Area. **Commissioner Duffy** questioned the move of the Placida

Bunkhouse to the Cape Haze Pioneer Trail. Mr. Loucks stated yes it was moved and staff is seeking historical funding. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft explained steps being taken concerning the pier decking and fire line. Mr. Loucks stated the County owns the property across the River from the Riverwood property. **Commissioner Loftus** recalled the property was the Myakka City property and questioned the amount of reimbursement to MSBUs. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft agreed and advised it is being reviewed. The slide presentation was continued on the following projects: West County Boat Ramp, Holiday Lakes Boat Ramp, and Cape Haze Pioneer Trail Phase IV.

This segment of the slide presentation encompassed the following projects: ADA Renovations. **Chairman D'Aprile** questioned the sufficiency of \$2.2 million to do all ADA renovations. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated the CIP is broken down by project and by year. **Chairman D'Aprile** opined \$2.2 million is high to renovate the two structures. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft advised \$200,000 is allocated each year for each. The following projects were included in the slide presentation: Facility /Parking/Walkway Lighting, Fishing Piers and Boardwalks. **Commissioner Moore** suggested local builders bid on these types of projects. Purchasing Director Kimberly Corbett stated no local preference is given in bidding requirements but local contractors are encouraged to bid as long as they qualify and pointed out bids are awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Mr. Loucks reported Ms. Corbett has instituted educational awareness programs for local contractors and builders. County Attorney Knowlton expressed unawareness of legalities that would allow or limit awards to local builders. **Commissioner Duffy** suggested utilizing Facilities Management staff. Mrs. Corbett stated that has been tried and in one instance a company with specific expertise was necessary to complete the project. **Commissioner Loftus** stated everything should be done to give local preference. Mrs. Corbett stated in some instances local preference is given but the Board has the discretion to change Purchasing procedures to allow award at a higher price to a local bidder within a certain percentage of the lowest bid price. Mr. Loucks stated this issue is being discussed on Friday at a meeting with the Contractors and Builders Association. **Commissioner Loftus** suggested expediting this especially in relation to jobs of less than \$200,000. The slide presentation continued with Removal and Repair of Trestles, Park Landscape

Development, Playground Replacement/New Purchase, Small Building Repairs and Upgrades, Sports Lighting Replacement and New Construction, Neighborhood Parks, and the Punta Gorda Library Construction.

**Chairman D'Aprile** requested the total from ad valorem for park projects. Mr. Loucks referenced the \$18.187 million for FY 08 and \$54.978 million over five years on the Ad Valorem - Capital Projects Fund chart.

This segment of the slide presentation dealt with Facilities CIP projects comprised of the Murdock Administration Building five-story window replacement, FEMA Mitigated Wind Protection Grants, Public Works - San Casa which is too small to keep up with existing needs, Public Works - Bachmann Complex Phases I and II, and the Family Services Building Renovation. **Chairman D'Aprile** requested the price of the building. Mr. Loucks recalled the price was \$1.2 million. **Chairman D'Aprile** pointed out that it will cost the County \$3.8 million to renovate and rehab the building. The slide presentation continued with the Charlotte County Human Services 7,000 square feet building to be constructed on the Loveland Campus with the State Department of Health, Fire Burn/Training Building. **Commissioner Moore** reminded the Board that the Fire Burn building is a State mandated requirement. Chief Dennis Didio explained the accreditation for lower insurance ratings and suggested using \$600,000 from FEMA and Sales Tax to lease back a portion of property deeded to Florida Gulf Coast University and use the remaining \$700,000 to renovate the existing facility. Mr. Loucks indicated staff would pursue that option. **Chairman D'Aprile** requested consensus on researching this. (**Board consensus.**) The presentation incorporated the following projects: Master Space Plan for the Murdock Administration Building, Tax Collector, Human Services, and Budget Departments. **Commissioner Loftus** suggested cutting these costs by keeping existing furniture and furnishings and retaining the Budget Office in its current location. Mr. Loucks recalled the original plan was for Budget to move into an area occupied by the Tax Collector. **Commissioner Moore** stated the figures are not accurate and questioned the need to relocate staff in portables. Facilities Management Director Andrew Baker referenced the portables cost of about \$24,000 whereas the Taylor Street lease is \$619,000 per annum. Mr. Loucks stated the lease would be brought back prior to expiration. **Commissioner Duffy**

opined sufficient space for Budget exists on the IT floor and pointed out the Tax Collector has unused space on the second floor. Mr. Loucks stated the Tax Collector space would be brought back to the Board. The presentation continued with a slide on the Master Space for the West County Sheriff's Office in District 1. **Commissioner Loftus** stated there is space available at San Casa, suggested looking at different alternatives for staffing the facility, constructing the facility across from the park, and consolidating Fire/EMS with the Sheriff's Office as ways to reduce M&O costs. **Chairman D'Aprile** questioned the availability of funds from the Sheriff's budget to cover M&O costs. Mr. Loucks stated this project is not being built across from the park.

The remainder of the slide presentation was comprised of the Master Space for the West County Annex Renovation, Pavement Maintenance, Security Upgrades at the Administration Complex, Justice Center, and Family Services Center, Facilities Upgrades to comply with Building Codes, Building and Construction Services for an Emergency Generator and Hurricane Shutters, Murdock Administration Building for Fire Alarms and Fire Pump Controller Replacement, expansion of the West Charlotte Mini-Transfer Station to double the capacity, construction of the new Fire/EMS Station #11, renovations at the South County Annex space used by the Supervisor of Elections for use by the Tax Collector and provide a generator, construction of Fire/EMS Station #05, renovation of the existing Fire/EMS Station #09, construction of a 41-acre Sunrise Park, construction of a restroom, pavilion, basketball court and additional parking as well as site work to prepare for future expansion of the Children's Play and Games Area at South Gulf Cove Park, North Charlotte Regional Park, Jail Expansion to double the current capacity of 528 beds and additional support areas pursuant to a two-phase project, reviewed the Guaranteed Maximum Price for Phases 1 and 2 including photographs and site, proposed expansion areas and structures, Charlotte County Events Center, Sports Park Renovations in accordance with an agreement with the Tampa Bay Rays, Bayshore Live Oak Park, Amberjack Environmental Park, Oyster Creek Environmental Park, Port Charlotte Beach Complex Pool House, Parking Area, and Tennis Court, and Historic Courthouse rehabilitation to house the Supervisor of Elections on the first floor and an appellate court on the second floor.

Commissioner Duffy questioned the Historic Courthouse compliance with ADA requirements. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated a citizen complaint is being reviewed, the building was found in compliance dealing with the pressure on the door, and the citizen will be notified of the finding.

RECESS: 3:30 PM - 3:40 PM

Mr. Loucks advised Commissioners Loftus and Duffy have departed for Tallahassee, Florida, and requested the remainder of the presentation be rescheduled to a future date in April. Chairman D'Aprile commented on the importance of all Board Members being present for the remaining presentation.

ADJOURNED: 3:45 PM

Signature on file in Commission Minutes  
Chairman

ATTEST:

BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Signature on file in Commission Minutes  
Deputy Clerk

djn